


**Remarks:**

The specification was amended by inserting before the first line the sentence: "This application is a continuation of application number 09/661839, filed September 14, 2000, pending." This sentence is included to reflect a proper claim of priority.

It is believed by Applicants that the currently amended claims are in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

McANDREWS, HELD & MALLOY, LTD.

 10/2/03  
Troy A. Groetken, Esq.

Reg. No. 46,442

McANDREWS, HELD & MALLOY, LTD.  
500 West Madison Street  
Suite 3400/34<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Chicago, Illinois 60661  
Telephone: (312) 775-8000